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A NEW FROG OF THE GENUS *PLATYMANTIS* FROM THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

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Three specimens in the American Museum of Natural History, secured on Bougainville Island by the Whitney South Sea Expedition, represent an apparently unknown frog of the genus *Platymantis*. It is quite distinct from *P. solomonis*² (Boulenger) and *P. weberi* Schmidt, the species heretofore known from the Solomon Islands. I am indebted to Mr. Charles M. Bogert for permission to describe it at this time, and pleased to have the opportunity to associate the name of Dr. George S. Myers with this new ranid.

Platymantis myersi, new species

TYPE: Adult female, from Bougainville Island, A.M.N.H. No. A-35348.

PARATYPES: Two specimens, A.M.N.H. Nos. 34324 (now Stanford No. 9335) and 35340 from Bougainville Island.

DEFINITION AND DIAGNOSIS: A *Platymantis* with pointed, protruding snout, tympanum small, broadly elliptical, covered with a thin, closely adhering skin, diameter less than one-half that of the eye. Finger tips strongly dilated, depressed, with distinct disks; first and second fingers of equal length, third longer than the snout. Venter quite dark, heavily mottled with brown; skin comparatively smooth. Apparently this species is most closely related to *vitianus* (A. Duméril) or *unilineatus* Peters (if

¹ Natural History Museum, Stanford University, California.

² Burt and Burt (1932, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., vol. 63, p. 491) include the specimens herein described in their list of specimens referred to *Rana solomonis* (Boulenger).

the latter may be regarded as distinct) from the Fiji Islands, from which it differs in that the interorbital space is much narrower than the breadth of the upper eyelid (not equal to it); the diameter of the tympanum is less than (not equal to) one-half that of the eye; and the outer metatarsal tubercle is distinct.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TYPE: Head moderately broad, its width greater than its length; snout pointed, projecting beyond the lower jaw, its length one and three-eighths times the diameter of the eye, measured along the side of the head; nostril somewhat nearer to tip of snout than to eye; interorbital distance much less than the width of the upper eyelid, almost equal to the distance between the external nares; tympanum broadly oval, its dorsoventral diameter slightly greater than its anteroposterior diameter, but less than one-half the diameter of the orbit; canthus rostralis distinct, moderately sharp; loreal region slightly oblique, weakly concave; tongue with a narrow, deep, median notch posteriorly; vomerine teeth in two slightly oblique patches with the anterior angle of their bases between the choanae, but the toothed crests well behind the level of the posterior borders of the choanae.

Fore limb well developed; when adpressed along the body, the third finger reaches posterior to the anus; fingers long, the third longer than the snout, the first and second equal in length, both shorter than the fourth; the finger tips dilated, about one and one-half times as broad as the adjacent phalanx, dorsoventrally depressed, the ventral surface of the dilation forming a flattened disk, separated terminally and laterally from the dorsal surface by a prominent groove; fingers not webbed at base but with a narrow dermal flange along the lateral surfaces from the base to the disk; subarticular tubercles large, round to slightly oval, somewhat flattened, though slightly more projecting distally; outer metacarpal tubercle strongly projecting, elliptical, its length twice its breadth; middle one large, roundish, flattened; outer smaller, narrowly elliptical.

Tibiotarsal articulation reaches anterior to the eye; length of tibia almost one and one-half times the breadth of the head; heels moderately overlapping when the hind limbs are folded at right angles to the body; toes in order of length 1, 2, 5, 3, 4, with minute webs at base, webs reaching the basal tubercle on the inside of the fourth toe and its distal end on the outside of the

third; tips of toes dilated and depressed with flat ventral disks separated by a very prominent groove from the dorsal surface, as are those of the finger; disks about equal in size to those of the fingers; subarticular tubercles prominent, moderate in size, oval, more strongly projecting distally than those of fingers; inner metatarsal tubercle prominent, elongate elliptical, its length equal to its distance from the distal end of the tubercle of the first finger; outer metatarsal tubercle distinct, small, and round.

Skin of the dorsum rather smooth except for scattered small tubercles, more pronounced on the extreme posterior part of the body; lateral surfaces and dorsolateral margins more strongly granulate and rugose with narrow glandular folds and tubercles; posterior aspect of the thighs strongly granulate; posterior venter only moderately so; under surface of head, throat, and pectoral region smooth.

COLOR: Dorsum (in preservative) dark grayish brown with a darker brown blotch between the eyes posteriorly, and poorly defined, very broad, dark transverse bands in the shoulder region and the middle of the back, darker posteriorly; limbs with rather broad, somewhat indistinct dark bars; posterior thighs dark reddish brown; upper lateral surfaces dark brown; lips with very broad, irregular blackish bars; sides of the head dark; tympanum with a light crescent ventrally; venter dark, heavily mottled with dark brown throughout; lower surface of hands and feet dark brown to blackish.

MEASUREMENTS (IN MM.): Snout to vent 58, head width 22.5, head length 19.25, snout 11, eye to nostril 6.5, eye 8, tympanum 3.5, interorbital space 4, lower fore limb 12.75, third finger 13, tibia 31, foot (from base of inner metatarsal tubercle) 31.75.

VARIATION: The three adult specimens (the type and paratypes) are quite uniform in the long, pointed snout; the small, oval tympanum, diameter less than one-half that of the eye; the long fingers with dilated and depressed tips and with flattened ventral pads; the dorsal surface of the body almost free from any elongate folds; and the dark ventral color pattern.

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